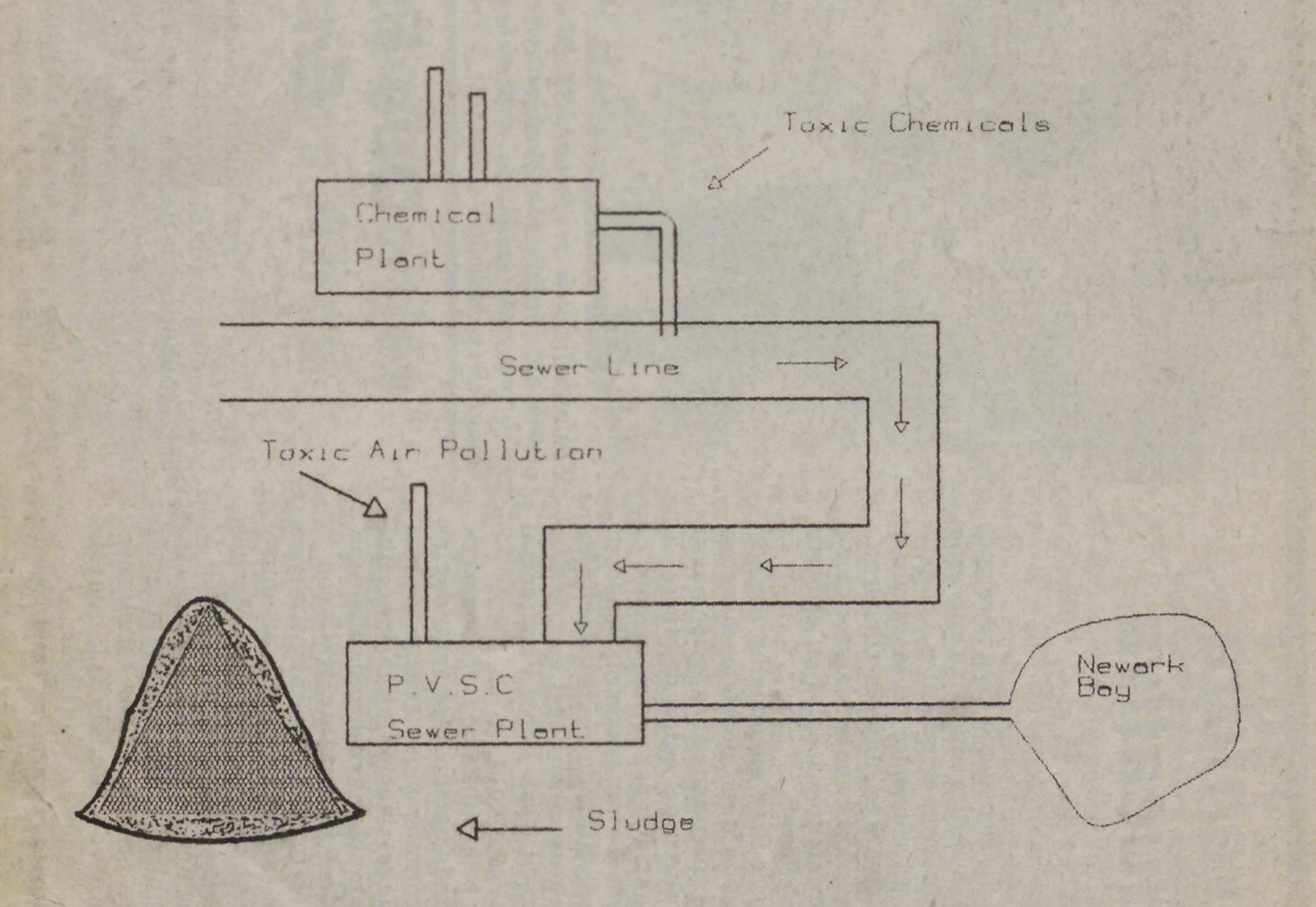
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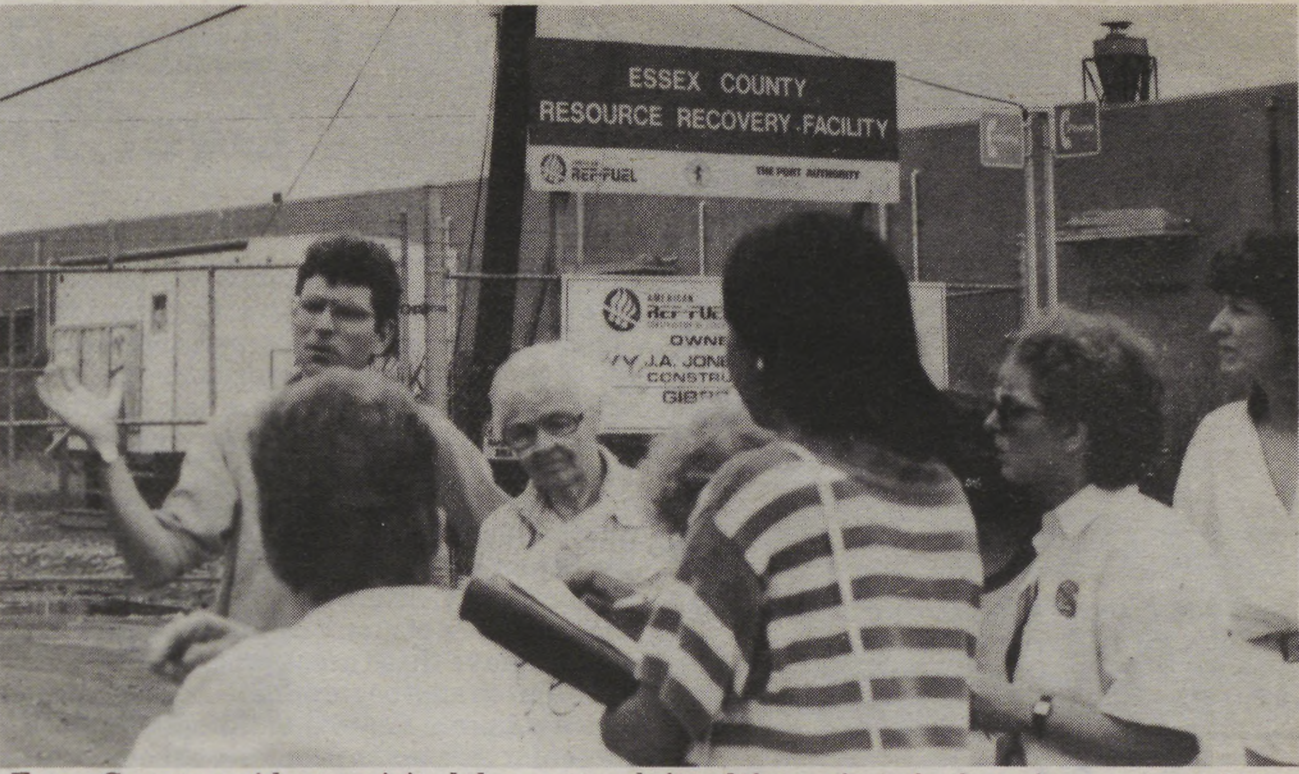
TRI-LINGUAL

IRONBOUND VOICES

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Saving The Fish By Poisoning People!



Essex County residentes visited the proposed site of the garbage incinerator on a recent tour of Ironbound's toxic waste sites, hosted by the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes.

The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) wants to build the nation's largest sludge incinerator in Ironbound.

Sludge incinerators are even worse than garbage incinerators. They're expensive and they emit even more toxic air pollution including many cancer-causing substances. Another huge health problem is from lead pollution. Lead causes behavioral and learning problems in children at extremely low levels.

Last year, Congress passed the **Ocean Dumping Ban Act** that prohibits ocean dumping after 1991. The PVSC had to come up with an alternative way to take care of the sludge. Instead of finding a solution that would protect people, they want to burn the sludge.

The PVSC currently disposes of about 300 tons per day of sewage sludge at a site in the Atlantic Ocean about 106 miles out to sea.

Every day, 225-325 million gallons of sewage goes into the PVSC sewage treatment plant in Ironbound. (The PVSC plant is hidden away on the far end of Wilson Ave. but you can still smell it.) The PVSC accepts sewage from a large part of northern New Jersey (35 cities) not just Newark. 16% of the sewage comes from industries. At least 360 companies dump into the PVSC sewer system. This includes 62 electroplating companies, 16 drug companies, and many chemical and plastics companies.

The PVSC facility was designed to treat the sewage (or wastewater) from houses and apartments. The treatment process removes some of the solid particles in the wastewater which is then dumped in Newark Bay. But, what's left is 1,400,000 tons a year of sewage sludge.

Sludge can be used safely on land if it is ***free of toxic chemicals***. (Currently 25% of the sludge in the US is used on land to improve the soil on farms.) One way to safely use the sludge is composting. There are 115 operating sludge composting plants in the US. Another 54 are either under construction or planned. But, high levels of toxic chemicals make the sludge unusable as a fertilizer. The sludge currently dumped in the ocean is high in toxic chemicals. The toxic chemicals will also make alternatives to ocean dumping dangerous. Between June 1987 and Feb. 1988 at least 705 dolphins washed ashore along the eastern seaboard of the United States. The National Marine Fisheries Service estimates that more than 50% of the inshore population of Atlantic Bottlenose dolphins died during that period. The government ignored the finding that these dolphins were highly contaminated with toxic chemicals like PCB's. The levels of PCB's were the highest ever recorded in marine history.

When Congress passed the Clean Water Act and other laws to protect the environment, they left a gigantic loophole. The chemical companies were still allowed to dump toxic chemicals into the sewers. The laws prevent many companies from dumping toxic chemicals directly into rivers and lakes. But, they can still dump hazardous wastes into the sewers. Hazardous wastes dumped into the sewers don't disappear. They either volatilize into the air causing toxic air pollution problems in Ironbound, or pass through the sewage treatment plant (into Newark Bay,) or end up in the sludge. **The toxic chemicals that threaten fish when they're dumped in the ocean, threaten humans when they wind up in the sewage sludge.**

Companies in Essex County dump more than 21,000,000 pounds of toxic chemicals a year into the sewer system. Companies in Passaic County dump more than 9 million lbs. of toxic chemicals.

Almost all of the toxic pollution comes from industries. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) divides toxic pollutants into 3 categories: ***heavy metals*** like lead, cadmium and mercury; 116 ***priority*** organic pollutants listed in the Clean Water Act; and thousands of other so-called ***non-priority*** organic pollutants. The EPA estimates that industry dumps more than 80% of the metals and more than 90% of the priority organic pollutants. The EPA estimates that there are 2.5 times as many non-priority pollutants as priority pollutants. Industries are not required to even monitor or report any non-priority chemicals. Many types of industries and thousands of so-called small quantity generators are not subject to any monitoring or reporting requirements. ***The EPA has noted that 85% of industrial dumping into the sewer systems are not regulated at all by the government.***

Only a small fraction of the toxic chemicals degrade into harmless substances in the sewage treatment plant. The rest end up as pollutants either through evaporation (becoming toxic air pollution,) discharges into Newark Bay or in the sludge.

As much as 90% of the solvents and other volatile chemicals that enter the sewer system readily evaporate when exposed to air. Aeration treatment which mixes the contaminated wastewater with air increases the toxic discharge of these chemiclas to the air.

An EPA study in Philadelphia found that sewage plants are the single most important source of volatile organic compounds in the metropolitan area. In neighborhoods near the treatment facility lung cancer rates are abnormally high.

Of the toxic heavy metals that enter the public sewers, about 60% end up in the sludge and 40% go into Newark Bay.

Most New Jersey sewer plants have no permit limits for these discharges.

Pesticides and PCB's generally become concentrated in the sludge.

Sludge Incinerators

Sludge incinerators produce a lot of toxic air pollution.

Even the EPA admits that sewage sludge incinerators emit dioxins and furans at a high rate. Some of the dioxins come from toxic chemicals being concentrated in the sludge during the wastewater treatment process. Laboratory tests also show that many toxic chemicals are created during the burning of the sludge including benzene, styrenes, toluene and other cancer-causing chemicals. Aluminum is one of the chemicals that will come out of the smokestack. Medical researchers recently linked ingestion of aluminum to Alzheimer's Disease.

Like garbage incinerators, sludge incinerators have a huge problem with contaminated ash. Sludge incinerator ash is a hazardous waste that must be disposed of in special landfills at a high cost.

Volatile metals such as cadmium, lead, and zinc are concentrated on small flyash particles. Some of these go into the air, the rest become part of the ash.

The Solution

The solution to the sludge problem is obvious: stop companies from dumping toxic chemicals into the sewers. The people who run the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission refuse to do this. They want to allow the corporations to continue to dump their toxic garbage into the sewers and instead create health problems for people. This isn't new. The PVSC has been doing it for years. The regulations that they have are mainly designed to protect the sewer pipes not people's health. They've spent approximately $1 billion dollars in recent years without doing anything to protect people. They have spewed out millions of pounds of toxic chemicals into the air in Ironbound. They continue to do this every day.

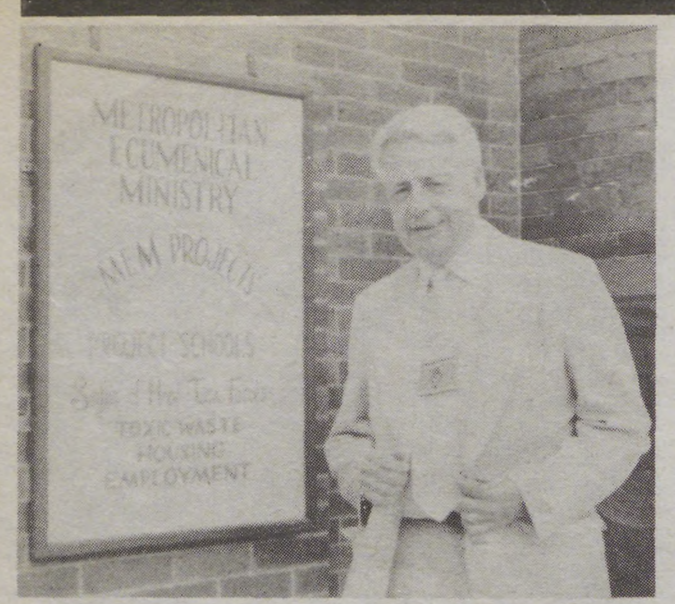
Instead of solving the problem of toxic chemicals being dumped into the sewers, they want to make matters worse: more air pollution paid for by local taxpayers. Sewer rates have gone up and up, but with no benefits for the people paying the bills. A sludge incinerator will make the sewer rates go up even faster. The incinerator will cost at least $350 million to build. The incinerator is being designed to be much larger than what is needed. Construction of the incinerator will result in a doubling of sewer charges.

As happened with the garbage incinerator, the government won't release complete financial projections.

*This article was written with the help of a recently published study: **The Sludge Problem** written by Fred Munson. It was published by Greenpeace and the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group in June 1989.*







Rev. David Burgess is retiring as pastor of St. Stephan's Church in Ironbound after 10 years. Rev. Burgess will continue as Director of Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry.

New Beginnings

Rev. David Burgess celebrated his retirement as pastor of St. Stephan's Church on June 23, 1989. A special service and reception were held at the Church. Rev. Burgess has been Pastor at St. Stephan's, located at the corner of Ferry St. and Wilson Ave., since 1979.

As part of his pastoral work, Rev. Burgess, along with other priests, ministers, and lay people in the neighborhood, formed the ***Ironbound Ecumenical Association***. This organization, made up of all the various churches in Ironbound, worked to solve issues in the community. The Ecumenical Association took strong stands to stop pollution, stop the garbage incinerator, and clean up toxic wastes in Ironbound.

Rev. Burgess was also active with the Wilson Ave. Bathhouse Committee. Each year he attended the "Wet-Downs" held at the at the Wilson Ave. Pool to protest its closing, and he has been active in calling for more recreational facilities in Ironbound.

During his years in Ironbound, Rev. Burgess strongly supported the work of the ***Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste***. His voice was always one of most effective at public hearings, meetings and demonstrations. He marched down Ferry St., and Blanchard St. He spoke up for Ironbound residents against big industries and bureaucracies which threaten our health and environment.

Before he came to Newark, Rev. Burgess had a varied career. He was a union organizer in the south from 1947 to 1955. He worked as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer, and as Deputy Director of the United Nations Children's Program (UNICEF.) His jobs took him all over the world.

Rev. Burgess will continue to work as director of the ***Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry*** in Newark, a position he has held since 1984. While he is leaving St. Stephan's, he is not really leaving Newark, and his voice will continue to ask questions, and raise issues.

The choir from Zion United Church of Christ in Vailsburg, where Dave was also Pastor from 1979 to 1986, joined in the special retirement service along with the choir from St. Stephan's. The service was followed by a wonderful dinner hosted by church members. Judy Vasile, who will become the next Pastor of St. Stephan's, shared in the festivities.

Among the many gifts, was a plaque presented by the Ironbound Ecumenical Association, acknowledging Rev. Burgess' contributions to their efforts to make Ironbound a better place to live.

Senior Citizen Programs Expand Over The Years

The Ironbound Community Corporation celebrates its 20th Anniversary in 1989. While the Community Corporation began (and continues) with programs for preschool age children, there are now a variety of programs for senior citizens which have been started over the years.

"We're like a flower that keeps adding new petals," says Pat Danielak, Director of the Senior Citizen Programs for Ironbound Community Corporation. "It is a tribute to the hard work of many Ironbound residents that we have these great programs now."

The programs began small. In 1977, there was a program to provide rides to the store for senior citizens so people would be able to go shopping. It only lasted 6 months. There was a project working with senior citizens from Hyatt Court to organize a Senior Citizen Club. The group finally got a room to meet in. Besides recreational activities, they were pushing for better security in their buildings. The storefront office at 95 Fleming Ave. has always helped seniors with filling out forms, answering questions if there was a problem with social security, or other agencies, or helping out in other ways.

In 1980, Ironbound Community Corporation applied for funds to begin a ***Meals on Wheels*** program, and were funded by the Essex County Division on Aging. This program serves hot meals to people who are unable to cook for themselves or get out due to illness or disability. When it began, the driver and volunteer staff person delivered 19 meals. The current staff, drivers Welven Braker and Vincent Fritz, and helpers Julie Zelewski and Richard Lee, and substitute Lula Henderson, deliver ***103 meals a day*** to Ironbound and the downtown area. In addition, a weekend crew, Philip Sweeper and Marco Calvopina deliver 30 hot meals.

In October of 1984 another program was launched: ***Home Friends***. With this wor- program, age children, there are now a variety of programs for senior citizens which have some shopping and cooking. "Our workers are helping 51 people in this program," said Grace Hixon, the Program Director. In addition to the chores they perform, the workers also bring companionship and cheer. Currently the Home Friends are: Evelyn Soto, Annie Gibson, Dorris Norris, Rose Marshall, Nilda Leger, Daisy Williams, and Mary Hardoman.

In 1986, Ironbound Community Corporation started still another program: ***Senior Ride***. This program provides rides for senior citizens or disabled people. Appointments have to be made ahead of time with Margaret Pasierbek, the driver, and there is a charge for the service ($2 round trip in Newark; $3 round trip outside Newark). "It is worth it to many people," said Ms. Pasierbek. "It is more convenient than a bus, especially for seniors, and it is much cheaper than a taxi." The Corporation has a snazzy new car for this program, and is anticipating providing 800 rides in 1989.

The newest programs are the **Golden Age Clubs**, which meet at the Community Center, 432 Lafayette St., and at Aspen Riverpark Apartments. These groups of seniors organized in order to distribute government surplus food on a monthly basis. The Clubs now have a newsletter, run social and recreational activities and educational workshops and meetings.

"I don't expect it to end here," says Pat Danielak. "In 10 more years, there may be 10 more programs. It is just good to see so many people involved and benefitting in many ways from these programs."

Poisons In Our Food

by Janet London

Chemical sprays and fertilizers used in farming can be dangerous. People who work with them or live near to where they are used sometimes get sick from them. Eating foods grown with these chemicals can cause illness. When farm chemicals get washed into bodies of water, the water gets polluted.

How can we farm in a safer and healthier way? Farmers can work to rebuild the soil in natural ways. Manure and composting (rotted plants) can build up the soil. When plants grow in good soil, few pests bother them. Farming this way takes longer, so the food is sometimes more expensive. It tastes much better than food grown with poisons! Also, we do not create problems that must be taken care of later, such as pollution or soil washing away.

How do we encourage more people to farm safely? We buy these naturally-grown products. Where do we get them? We could not find enough locally, so we decided to bring them here ourselves. How did we do that? We formed a food co-op.

A co-op (short for cooperative) means working together with friends and neighbors to have more control over what food you can get. You save the money that would be paid to a store for rent and labor by using a free low-cost location (someone's home, a church basement) or by doing the work yourselves.

To get fruits and vegetables grown without poison sprays and chemical fertilizers for our families, we called a seller (wholesaler) in California. We chose fruits, cooking vegetables, and salad vegetables. Much of the produce we buy is delivered to the wholesaler Friday morning by the farmers who grow it. Our supplier brings it to the airport in Los Angeles. It goes on a plane to New Jersey, and we pick it up early Saturday morning at the airport in Newark. We bring it right away to homes in different neighborhoods so that it stays very fresh.

Fifteen families share each delivery. They each pay $35 every other Saturday for a big bag (about 17 pounds) of produce. They get different fruits, vegetables, and salad materials every time. Two people come early to unload the truck and divide the food into fifteen bags. Everyone comes to pick up their food a little later, and pays for the next delivery.

If you would like to join us in buying foods raised without poison please call us at **429-0391**. We can help you form a group in your neighborhood.

We can also help you learn how to buy other good foods as a co-op. Every month we teach a class about buying this way. Find a friend or neighbor who is also interested, and we will teach you both for $35. If five families decide to buy together, they all chip in to pay for the cost of the class, since it will save everyone money.

Perhaps there are things you would like to buy that you cannot find, or that cost too much. With a co-op you can buy these things. You can learn who makes them, and buy from them, just as any store would. Being a co-op gives you a lot of power. You may be surprised at what people working together can do.

Educational Adventure

St. Benedict's Prep School recently organized a very special educational adventure for some of its students. The students, along with a faculty advisor, left Newark on May 14th and arrived in Tucson, Arizona. They then traveled for 2 weeks to several different locations along the Mexican-American border.

St. Benedict's Prep sponsors a project phase during the month of May, where teachers and students learn from real-life experiences outside of the classroom. The trip was financed by contributions from parents, friends, and alumni of St. Benedict's.

The trip was organized with ***Borderlinks***, a program sponsored by the Tucson Ecumenical Council Task Force for Central America. This is a program that brings groups of people from around the country to learn about the complex situations that exist in this unique part of the country, situations that deal with the problems on the Mexican-American border. More importantly, it deals with the struggle of Central American refugees that are fighting to remain here and how their lives have been changed. Many of the refugees are fleeing persecution or war in their homeland. The trip gave the students a first-hand view of this growing problem. The students gained a new understanding about what is happening there and what can be done.

The students traveled to "border cities" such as El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Many people are arrested each year for either entering the country illegally or for helping others to enter the country illegally. The Mexican-American border is one of the places that many people seek refuge from other governments or political-economical situations. Many of these people are denied permission to enter the country, and that is where the unrest exists.

Since all of the students on the trip come from immigrant families, they already had an advantage for understanding this critical situation. Andre da Silva immigrated from Brazil in 1978; Frank Morales' family comes from Colombia and Puerto Rico; Mario Torres immigrated from Portugal in 1985; and Malcolm Toussaint immigrated from the Commonwealth of Dominica in 1981.

St. Benedict's has always been an "immigrant school" from its beginning. Since 1868, the school has educated successive generations of many ethnic groups that have come to Newark - Germans, Irish, Italian, Slavs, - and most recently, African, African-American, Asian, Caribbean, Portuguese, and Spanish-speaking peoples from several countries.

During the trip the students had meetings with Central American refugees, sanctuary workers, and the U.S. border patrol. While in Tucson, they stayed in a house provided by ***Borderlinks***. They visited the communities of El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. They visited a Catholic church community in Agua Prieta. They also met with the Secretary of the World Council of Churches.

Teachers at St. Benedict's prepared the students for the trip in the two weeks prior to leaving. This included visits to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) located in downtown Newark, visits to Salvadoran refugees in Long Island, NY, and participating in "A Consultation On Undocumented Central Americans" in Wilmington, DE from May 5-7.

We are also publishing 2 articles written by the students. In them, they share their observations and some of what they learned.



St. Benedict Prep students and their teacher attended a special program about immigration, which involved a trip to the Mexican American border. Shown here near the site of a church they were helping to build are (from left to right): Mario Torres, Andre da Silva, teacher Jack Dougherty, Malcolm Toussaint, and Frank Morales.

What's Happening in Mexico?

This article was written by a student of St. Benedict's Prep School in Newark who took part in a special educational program which involved visiting the Mexican-American border (see article 'Educational Adventure').

by Malcolm Toussaint, class of '91

On Sunday, May 14, 1989, a group of five from St. Benedict's set out to study the border between the United States and Mexico. The team included 1st Year Upper Division students Andre de Silva, Frank Morales, Mario Torres, and Malcolm Toussaint, and the teacher, Mr. Jack Dougherty. What we found would change our lives forever. The group experienced first hand the ways that the United States and U.S. companies exploit the people in Mexico due to the crisis their economy is currently facing.

An organization named ***"Borderlinks"*** made the arrangements possible for us to learn about immigration and its affects on the borderland. For many of us, it was our first trip to the Southwest United States. We arrived at the Tucson airport late Sunday night and were greeted by humongous cacti, lots of dust, and twelve travelling companions for the next two weeks.

For the next three days, the group remained in Tucson and looked at the issues on the American side of the border. First, we visited the Florence Detention Center. It is a place where apprehended illegal aliens are brought to be deported to the countries from whence they came. Most Border Patrol officers will stop any Hispanic-looking person, whether or not they have a green card, and ask for proof of permanent residency. Under U.S. law, this constitutes discrimination because it is not only Hispanic people who enter the country illegally. Also, the apprehended persons are, under U.S. law, guaranteed legal representation or their deportation hearing will be suspended. However, some aliens are never given legal representation; sometimes, the Border Patrol physically threatens them unless they sign a form saying that they are willing to return to their country. This nullifies the deportation hearing in which illegal aliens can try to convince the judge that they should be allowed to stay in the country.

PRISSA, an organization based in Tucson, is a company that basically tries to attract large corporations to the maquiladora system, or maquila for short. The maquila system is a system in which a big manufacturing company builds a factory in Mexico to have parts of its products assembled there. The part about the system that is unfair is in the workers' rights. Depending on the kind of job, most workers are paid the equivalent of 50 cents an hour! On this salary, the workers are expected to support their families (which are usually not small) with prices in Mexico as high as in the U.S., and they work for unreasonably long hours most of the time.

That, along with a few more lectures, concluded the first leg of the trip. On Thursday, May 18th, we headed to a community outside of El Paso, Texas. The community, called Socorro, was nearly two miles from the U.S.-Mexican border which the group crossed frequently to eat and buy souvenirs.

During our stay at the Presbyterian-Church in Socorro, Texas, we started to build a church, managing to put the first three walls up before we left. But, being either in or near Mexico most of the time gave us the opportunity to study issues from the Mexican point of view. The first thing we did was to visit a maquila. We visited the people who assemble the items, varying from smoke detectors to flashlights. At first, everything seemed normal; then we noticed that almost none of these people were wearing any sort of protection, such as eye goggles or earplugs (the factory was noisy). We then asked about minimum wage and the figure given to us was much lower than the one quoted by the representative at PRISSA.

Before leaving, we stayed either in or near Mexico for a few days and then returned to Tucson. During our final days in Tucson, we talked extensively about the situations we had experienced in Mexico and in the United States. We talked about the ways that the United States and U.S. companies exploit the economic situation in Mexico. Mexico's huge national debt leaves it in a situation where it cannot refuse any sort of funding it can get its hands on. Therefore, the Mexican government eagerly welcomes maquilas since they provide money to the government through taxes. Even though the government knows that some maquilas pay below minimum wage, they think that any amount of money helps the workers in some way.

Still, the issue remains that the Mexican workers are not making enough money to support themselves, much less their families. U.S. companies saw the opportunity to

cont. p.4



Is This Worth $200,000?

This is how the courtyard of the Aspen Riverpark Apartments looks since the owner began a 'beautification program' which will cost $200,000. "We're concerned about how long the work is taking," said Delores Rich, vice president of the Tenants Association. "The equipment and the debris from the work has been left all over the courtyard. It is dangerous. People may fall over it, and children may throw the rocks, or hurt themselves. It should be cleaned up immediately. Plus some of us feel there are much more important things to spend money for, like programs for children in the building."

Mexico
continued

make products cheaper by using cheap labor and they jumped at the chance. What does this mean for Americans? In the future, it might mean less jobs as companies begin relying more and more on materials made in Mexico. So, even though Americans may be able to buy products cheaper, there may be more and more Americans out of jobs in the future. And what does this mean for the Mexicans? It could possibly mean continuing poverty for most of Mexico. We are not asking for a complete, immediate change in Mexico; we are just asking that the "First World" country sitting right on top of it be more sensitive to its needs and to treat it like the major country that it could be.

Peace

To survive in this world,
we must achieve peace.

To stop famine and feed the hungry,
we must achieve peace.

To live without fear,
we must achieve peace.

To live without fear of being destroyed.
we must achieve peace.

To eliminate crime entirely,
we must achieve peace.

To save the ones who are dying of poverty,
we must achieve peace.

To achieve peace,
we must care.

Leonard, age 12, Ontario

If we value our own lives and the lives of our children and all children everywhere, if we honor both the past and the future, then we must do everything in our power to work non-violently for peace.

Margaret Laurence

Hugs

It's wondrous what a hug can do.
A hug can cheer you when you're blue.
A hug can say "I love you so,"
Or "Gee I hate to see you go."

A hug is "Welcome back again,"
And "Great to see you! Where've you been?"
A hug can soothe a small child's pain
And bring a rainbow after rain.

The hug! There's just no doubt about it...
We scarcely could survive without it!
A hug delights and warms and charms.
It must be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for fathers and mothers,
Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers. And
Chances are your favorite aunts
Love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them, puppies love them.
Heads of states are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier
And make your travel so much merrier.

No need to fret about your store or 'em;
The more you give the more there's more of 'em.
So stretch those arms without delay
And give someone a hug today!

Dean Walley

SHARE Program

The SHARE program is available to anyone interested in purchasing food at reduced prices. For $12 and 2 hours of community service, you get the equivalent of $35 of food, which always includes fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and staples. Everyone is eligible. Please call ***344-2400*** if you are interested.

Scratching The Surface: Reflections on the U.S.-Mexican Border

by Frank Morales, class of '91

During the two weeks stay in the border area, questions tossed in my head while I listened to several lectures and interviews. Questions will certainly be in the minds of those who were unable to experience the trip.

Q: How do I feel about the border?
A: I have mixed feelings on the boundary that sets aside Mexico from the United States. First, I think the lack of sharing between the two countries only benefits the economy of the United States. An example of this is the growth of maquilas. Maquilas are Mexican production plants with a high percentage of foreign ownership. They use Mexican labor to process U.S. goods which are then shipped back to the U.S. as packaged products. The wages of the workers are no more than 50 cents an hour. This benefits the economy of the U.S. because U.S. companies use the advantage of labor (provided by Mexican workers) to gain profit. Personally, I feel the frontier of Mexico and its riches are being exploited by the opportunists of the United States. Mexico, to me, will never have a stable economy because its trading partner the U.S., will not distribute the goods equally.

'We Told You So!'

Two years ago, a small garbage incinerator in Minnesota was discovered to be emitting too much dioxin. The Minnesota State government ordered the owners to reduce the dioxin emissions. The owners tried to reduce the dioxin emissions by "improving operating procedures." When the incinerator was tested again it was found to still be putting too much dioxin into the air. The dioxin emissions were 230 times greater than the dio-xin guidelines issued by the Swedish government.

The Minnesota incinerator is less than 1/20 the size of the incinerator being built in Ironbound.

Ironbound residents were also proved right again. The testing proved that the dioxins were created in the pollution control equipment not in the boiler itself. 90% of the dioxins were created inside the polution control equipment.

Members of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes (ICATW) told the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that dioxins would be created in the pollution control equipment more than 3 years ago. The DEP refused to believe the Ironbound residents. Instead, the DEP took the word of consultants hired by the people that wanted to build the incinerator.

Massachusetts residents recently found out that the disposal fee was going up by 500% at the Saugus incinerator. The fee will go up from $23 per ton to more than $100 per ton. Residents will also have to pay an extra $60 million for garbage disposal during the 18 months that the incinerator will be closed to install new pollution control equipment.

The rise in costs is due to the cost of the new pollution control equipment and the cost of disposing of the toxic ash that the incinerator produces.

Essex County officials visited the Saugus incinerator a few years ago and said that the Saugus incinerator was a good example of the advantages of burning garbage.

Members of the ICATW had predicted that the ash disposal costs would make garbage incinerators the most expensive way to dispose of garbage.

ICATW Action

'And We Still Haven't Found What We're Looking For'

"We've been asking for full financial information about the garbage incinerator for years, and you have not provided it. Now we are asking you again: ***exactly how much will be spent building this incinerator and how much will it cost each taxpayer?***"

This was the most important question asked - but not answered - at the last Essex County Freeholder meeting on July 5, 1989. Members of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** attended the meeting in order to ask for the cost information again.

"Do you know when we first asked for this information?" said Arnold Cohen. "It was 1986. And we ***still*** haven't gotten it."

The Freeholders were voting on an amendment regarding how they give money to finance the garbage incinerator.

Freeholder President Parlavecchio, who lives in the Ironbound, said that if **ICATW** asks their questions in writing, he would make sure they were answered.

ICATW members also asked why County Executive Amato continues to say the cost of the getting rid of garbage using an incinerator will be $65 per ton when the cost for the Warren County incinerator that is already operating is much higher - $95 a ton. "It is very misleading to give out this kind of information. We'd like to know what he is basing this information on, because it certainly is not based on the experience of an incinerator that is already operating," said Mr. Cohen.

"These are what I think of as the ***Billion Dollar Questions***," said another ICATW member. "Because it might cost me and other taxpayers that much before they're through with it. Not to mention that we'll be paying to pollute ourselves with dioxin, lead, and other harmful chemicals being put into the air for us to breath."

ICATW members also issued a press release July 1 criticizing Mayor Sharpe James for stating that the garbage incinerator will lower County residents garbage disposal costs. "The exact opposite is true," said Beatrice Speziale, an ICATW member. "The incinerator will cost millions of dollars a year to operate and maintain. Then add in lots of money for special disposal of the toxic ash the incinerator will produce."

The Committee criticized City officials for reaching an agreement with Essex County that would pay Newark a $4 per ton fee for garbage brought to the two garbage transfer stations in the city. "Mayor James says that Newark is losing money with the $4 per ton charge. It's crazy for the city to agree to a payment if it does not meet its cost," said Mariarosa Da Costa. "Also how can the City be doing business with transfer stations that refuse to open up their books and justify why they are charging $107 per ton for garbage?"

Touring Toxic Sites

The **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** was host for a tour of the toxic sites in the Ironbound section on Saturday June 24, 1989. The tour was organized after the Mayors of Essex County were given a tour of the garbage incinerator (now being constructed) by County Executive Amato.

"We wanted people to see the real picture of what pollution has done to this neighborhood. Instead of cleaning this pollution up, they are going to give us more by building an incinerator here," said Arnold Cohen.

Eco-Alert, a group of Essex County residents who oppose the incinerator, brought about 30 people to join in the tour.

The group went from Lister Avenue, where they saw the areas contaminated with the highest dioxin levels in the world, to Chemical Waste Management, which already operates a hazardous waste plant in Ironbound, to the residential streets which were contaminated with dioxin. They also went to see the Ironbound Stadium, where construction of a pool was stopped because of chemical pollution on the property. They stopped at the Otillio Landfill, an illegal dump site which was identified in 1974.

"It has been 15 years, and the DEP still hasn't done anything at Otillio to clean it up. [illegible] monitoring what comes out of the incinerator stack. How can we trust our health to them?" said Arnold Cohen.



Happy Graduation!

Forty five students graduated this year during the 20th graduation ceremony from the Ironbound Childrens' Center on Elm St. Each class presented muscial numbers during the program, and then graduates, parents, friends, and families joined the staff of the Childrens' Center for a delicious dinner.

Another Incinerator?

The **ICATW** is also working in a new group - the ***Clean Sludge Coalition*** - which is fighting the building of yet ***another*** incinerator in Ironbound. This one is proposed for Doremus Ave. by the Passaic Valley Sewage Commission (PVSC). It would be the "world's largest sludge burning incinerator."

ICATW has joined with other groups to oppose burning sludge, and instead get rid of the toxic chemicals in the sludge by refusing to allow industries to dump them in the sewers. Then the sewer sludge could be used for positive uses - like compost.

Dinner Dance Fundraiser on May 19, 1989 at which more than $2000 was raised for the court case against the garbage incinerator. More than 150 people attended the Dinner-Dance.

Neighbors Forced To Move Because Of Ash From Incinerator

People in Maine are learning the hard way that pollution control systems on garbage incinerators don't mean clean air!

Last fall, the incinerator (operated by the Maine Energy Recovery Company) put an ash-like substance into the air, 3 different times. People were exposed to unhealthy levels of lead and dioxin.

On March 31, 1989, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection promised to take measures that would "make sure" it never happened again. A computer-controlled system was put in place as part of their plan.

On May 1, 1989, one month later, residents woke up to find their neighborhood covered with a grayish-white ash. The incinerator operators claimed that the ash didn't come from the smokestacks but came out of an ash storage bin.

On May 6, 1989, witnesses again saw ash coming from the smokestack. The manager of the incinerator claimed that he didn't see anything. Interestingly, the incinerators air-monitoring equipment "just happened to" not be working at the time.

On May 17, 1989, 2 people were forced to more from their home because of health problems caused by the ash.

On May 17, 1989, the Biddeford City Council approved their own air and noise pollution law to deal with the incinerator. In 2 years, the state had refused to fine the incinerator owners for violations at the plant.

On May 23, 1989, a mob of angry residents protested against the incinerator in front of City Hall. One resident demanded a property tax abatement.

On May 19, 1989, an editorial in the local newspaper, the Journal Tribune, said "If we could make the choice all over again, we might not be so quick to choose incineration."

Food Bank Needs Volunteers

The Community Food Bank of New Jersey needs volunteers for the summer to help prepare industry-donated food for distribution to non-profit organizations that provide food for the hungry.

Volunteers are needed to pack and label boxes, type, make phone calls, and do light carpentry work and painting.

Call **643-3663** if you have time to help. The Food Bank is located at 50 Frelinghysen Ave.



Alunos da Escola Preparatória St. Benedict e seu professor fizeram parte dum programa de imigração, do qual fez parte uma viajem à fronteira Americana com o México. Aqui cerca do local da igreja que eles ajudavam a construír são (de esquerda para a direita): Mario Torres, Andre da Silva, Professor Jack Dougherty, Malcom Toussaint, e Frank Morales.

O Que Está Acontecendo No México?

por Malcolm Toussaint, classe de '91

No Domingo dia 14 de Maio, 1989, um grupo de cinco de St. Benedict's saíram a estudar a fronteira entre os Estados Unidos e o México. A equipe incluia os estudantes do 1º Ano da Divisão Superior Andre de Silva, Frank Morales, Mario Torres e Malcom Toussaint, e o professor, o Sr. Jack Dougherty. O que encontramos cambiaria as nossas vidas para sempre. O grupo viu pessoalmente as maneiras que os Estados Unidos [illegible] as pessoas do México devido à crise que a sua economia enfrenta.

Uma organização chamada ***Borderlinks*** fez possivle nós aprendermos sobre a imigração e os seus efeitos na area da fronteira. Para muitos de nós, era a primeira vez ao Sudoeste dos Estados Unidos. Chegamos ao aeroporto de Tucson já tarde no Domingo à noite e fomos esperados por cactos enormes, muito pó e doze companheiros de viajem para as próximas duas semanas.

Durante os próximos três dias, o grupo ficou em Tucson e viram os assuntos do lado Americano da fronteira. Primeiro, visitámos o Centro de Detenção Florence. É um lugar onde pessoas ilegais aprendidas são levadas para serem deportadas para os países de donde vieram. Quase todos os patrolheiros de fronteira param uma pessoa que pareça hispana, quer tenham o cartão verde ou não, e pedem-lhe provas de residencia permanente. Sob a lei dos Estados Unidos, isto constitui discriminação porque não são só as pessoas hispanas que entram ilegais neste país. Também as pessoas apreendidas são, sob a lei dos Estados Unidos, garantidas representação legal ou o seu juizo de deportação será suspendido. Porém, alguns ilegais nunca tiveram representação legal; às vezes, os patrolheiros de fronteira ameaçam-nos fisicamente até que eles assinem um formulário que estão dis postos a regressar ao seu país. Isto anula o juizo de deportação no qual ilegais podem tentar convencer o juiz que eles derem poder ficar no país.

PRISSA, uma organização com a base em Tucson, é uma companhia que basicamente tenta atraír grandes corporações ao sistema de "maquiladora", ou para mais curto a "maquila". O sistema maquila é um sistema no qual uma companhia grande construi uma fábrica no México para montar partes dos seus produtos lá. A parte do sistema que é injusta é os direitos dos trabalhadores. Dependendo do trabalho, a maior parte dos trabalhadores são pago a equivalência de 50 centavos à hora. Com este salário, os trabalhadores têm de suportar as suas familias (geralmente não são pequenas) com preços no México tão altos como nos E. U., e dos trabalhan horas muito longas a maioria das vezes.

Tudo isto, mais umas conferências, concluiu a primeira fase da viagem.

[illegible] no Socorro, começamos a construir as primeiras três paredes de uma igreja.

Tambem tivemos a oportunidade de estudar a vida diária dos mexicanos. Primeiro, visitamos uma maquila. A primeira vista, tudo parecia normal mas, depois de uma investigação mais pormenorizada notamos que quase nenhumas pessoas usavam a proteçção para os olhos e ouvids. (A fábrica era extrememente barulhenta). Quando pedimos informação sobre o salárro minimo, descobrimos que figurava mais baixo que o representante na PRISSA nos tinha dado.

Antes de sairmos, ficamos ou dentro ou perto de Mexico por uns dias e depois voltamos à Tuscon. Durante os últimos dias em Tucson, tivemos muitas discussões sobre as nossas experiências, como as companhias americanas explaram a situação económica de Mexico. Por causa da sua enorme divida nacional, o governo Mexicano aceita todos os tipos de ajuda economia. Por isso, o governo aceita as maquilas com entusiasmo porque assim, pode conseguir o rendimento das impostas. Apesar do facto que as maquilas pagam menos que o salário mínimo eles pensam que qualquer ajuda economica ajuda os trabalhadores.

Mas ainda existe o problema dos salários muito baixos - os trabalhadores mexicanos não ganham o suficiente para suportar as suas familias. As companhias americanas organizar um Club. O grupo formou-se e finalmente conseguiu um lugar para as reuniões. Para alem de actividades recreativas, eles queriam mais segurança nos pré programa serve refeições quentes a pessoas que estão impossibilitadas de sair de casa ou que não podem cozinhar. Comecoú por quais são as implicações para os mexicanos? O resultado possivlemente será a continuação de pobreza para o povo mexicano. Não estamos a pedir um câmbio immediato no México. Só pedimos aos paises do 'primeiro mundo' que tenham mais sensibilidade as necessidades do Mexico e que o tratem com a importancia que merece.

Adventura Educacional

A Escola Preparatória São Benedito organizou recentemente uma bem especial aventura educacional para alguns estudantes. Os estudantes, juntamente com um funcionário da escola, partiram de Newark no dia 14 de Maio e chegaram em Tucson, no Arizona. Dali, eles viajaram por mais 2 semanas para diferentes locais na fronteira Mexicana-Americana.

A Escola Preparatória São Benedito patrocinou este projeto no mês de Maio, com a finalidade de proporcionar aos alunos e professores a oportunidade de aprender e experimentar a vida fora da sala de aulas. Em outras palavras, viver a realidade. A viaje foi financiada pelos pais, amigos, e a Associação Alumni da escola.

Esta viaje foi organizada com o ***Borderlinks***, um programa patrocinado pelo Concílio Ecumênico de Tucson, o qual ajuda o povo da America Central. Este é um programa que tem como objetivo mostrar às pessoas a complexidade dos problemas que existem naque específica parte do pais, situações que diz respeito aos problemas da fronteira Mexicana-Americana. Mais importante ainda, estes problemas diz respeito à luta do povo Central Americano que desejam permanecer neste país como refugiados bem como as mudancas drásticas que tiveram que fazer em suas vidas. Muitos destes refugiados estão fugindo da persequição bem como da guerra assoladora de seus países. Esta viaje mostrou aos estudantes em primeira mão a complexidade bem como o tamanho deste problema. Os estudantes ganharam uma nova compreensão sobre o que se passa naquela região bem como o que poderá ser feito para ajudar aquele povo.

[illegible] teiriças' como El Paso, Texa, e Cidade Juarez, México. Muitas pessoas são presas por ano por entrar ilegalmente ou por ajudar outros entrarem ilegalmente neste país. A fronteira Mexicana-Americana é um dos lugares donde muitas pessoas procuram refugios de outros governos ou por problemas sócio-economicos. Muitas destas pessoas tem os seus pedidos de entradas negados e ai é que existe o problema.

Desde que todos os estudantes provem de familias de imigrantes, eles tem a vantagem de compreenderem melhor a situação. Andre da Silva imigrou do Brasil em 1978, Franco Morales vem da Columbia e Porto Rico, Mario Torres imigrou de Portugal em 1985, e Malcolm Toussaint imigrou de comunidade da Dominica em 1981.

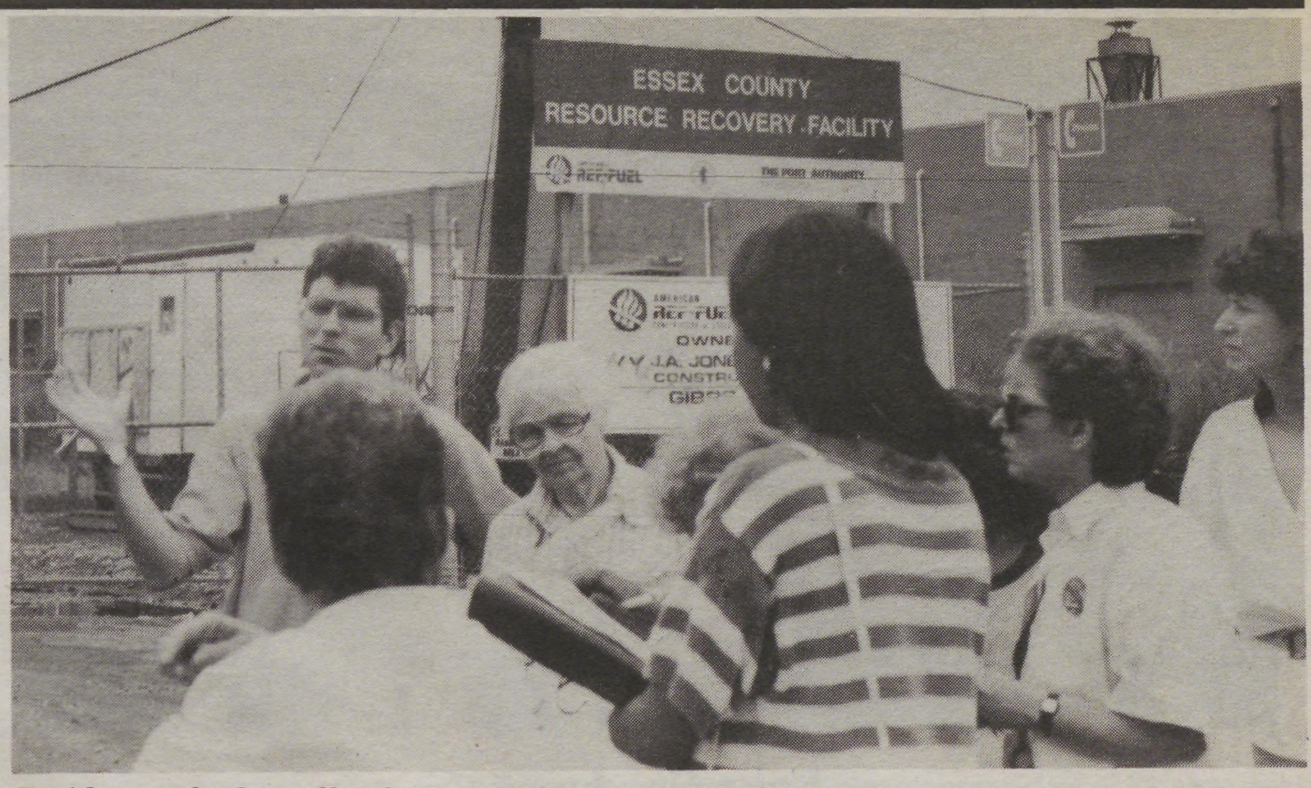
São Benedito tem sido sempre uma 'escola de imigrantes' desde o seu começo. Desde 1868, a escola tem educado sucessivas gerações etnicos que vieram para Newark - alemães, irlandêses, eslavos, e mais recentemente, africanos, africanos-americanos, asiáticos, caribeanos, portugueses, e pessoas de lingua espanhola de varios paises.

Durante a viaje os estudantes reuniaram com refugiados Central Americanos, trabalhadores bem como patrulhas fronteiriças. Enquanto permaneceram em Tucson, eles ficaram numa casa provida pela ***Borderlinks***. Eles visitaram comunidades em El Paso, Texas, e Cidade Juarez, Mexico. Visitaram ainda uma igreja comunitaria Católica em Agua Preta. Visitaram tambem o secretário do Concilio Mundial de Igrejas.

Os professores da escola São Benedito, prepararam os estudantes com 2 semanas de antecedência. Isto incluiram visita ao serviço de imigração em Newark, visitaram refugiados Salvadorenhos em Long Island, New York, e participaram em 'Uma Consulta Nos Central Americanos Sem Documentos" em Wilmington, De. di dia 5 - 7 de Maio.

Estamos publicando 2 artigos escrito pelos estudantes.

Actividades Do ICATW



Residentes do Concelho de Essex visitaram o local proposta para o incinerador de lixo recentemente numa volta aos locais de despejos tóxicos, patricionado pelo ICATW.

"Há anos que temos vindo a pedir completa informação financeira àcerca do incinerador de lixos. Agora, fazemos novo pedido: ***exactamente quanto custará a construção do edificio do incinerador e quanto custará a cada contribuinte?***"

Esta foi a pergunta mais importante feita - mas não teve resposta - na última reunião dos Freeholders do condado do Essex realizada no dia 5 de Julho de 1989. Elementos do **Comité do Ironbound Contra Produtos Tóxicos** estiveram presentes na reunião para, uma vez mais, pedirem informações financeiras sobre o custo do incinerador.

"Sabem quando pela primeira vez pedimos esta informação?" perguntou Arnold Cohen. "foi em 1986. E ainda não a recebemos."

Os Freeholders procediam a uma votação sobre uma emenda como iriam eles dar o capital para financear o incinerador.

O Presidente do grupo, Sr. Parlavecchio, que vive no Ironbound, afirmou que se o ICATW fizer as suas perguntas e pedidos por escrito, ele próprio verificaria que os mesmos recebessem resposta.

Os membros do ICATW perguntaram também porque é que o Executivo do Condado, Sr. Amato, continua a dizer que o custo de fazer desaparecer toda a espécie de lixo utilizando um incineradaor será de 65 dólares por tonelada quando no Condado de Warren o custo no incinerador já em elaboração é muito mais elevado - 95 dólares por tonelada.

"Torna-se bastante confuso prestar semelhante informação. Gostariamos de saber em que baseia ele tais informações, porque não é certamentte baseado na experiência scentou o Sr. Cohen.

"Eu penso que estas são as perguntas que valem ***milhões de dólares,***" dizia outro membro do grupo ICATW. "Porque isso é quanto custará a mim e a outros contribuintes, mesmo antes da sua elaboração. Isto para não dizer que iremos pagar por dioxinas, chumbo e outros produtos químicos nocivos que irão para o ar e nos envenenarão."

Visitas A Locais Poluídos

O **Comité do Ironbound Contra Produtos Tóxicos** serviu de cicerone para uma visita a locais contaminados do Ironbound, no sábado, 24 de Junho de 1989. A visita foi organizada após uma visita feita por Mayors do Condado do Essex ao local onde o Executivo do Condado, Sr. Amato, está a construir um incinerador.

"Queremos que as pessoas vejam o que realmente a poluição tem feito a estas redondezas. ***Em vez de limpar esta poluição, eles vão ainda dar-nos mais, ao construir aqui um queimador de lixos,***" disse Arnold Cohen.

Eco-Alert, um grupo de residentes do condado do Essex que se opõe à construção do incinerador, tyrouxe consigo cerca de 30 pessoas que se juntaram ao grupo convidado para a visita.

O grupo foi desde a Avenida Lister, onde teve oportunidade de ver áreas contaminadas com os mais elevados níveis de dioxinas em todo o mundo, até ao local da companhia Chemical Waste Management, que já opera uma planta de resíduos no Ironbound, e ainda até ruas residenciais que se encontram poluídas com dioxina. Foram também ver o estádio do Ironbound, onde a construção duma piscina foi suspensa devido à poluição química da propriedade. Visitaram também a lixeira Otillio, lixeira considerada ilegal desde 1974.

"Passaram-se já 15 anos, e o DEP ainda nada fez para que a lixeira Otillio desaparecesse. Este é o mesmo DEP que fiscalizará aquilo que sairá da chaminé do incinerador. Como podemos confiar-lhe a nossa saúde?" perguntava Arnold Cohen.

Outro Incinerador?

O ICATW encontra-se também a trabalhar com um outro grupo - **Clean Sludge Coalition** - que luta contra a construção de mais um incinerador no Ironbound. Este está indicado para a Doremus Avenue pela Passaic Valley Sewage Commission (PVSC). Será "o maior queimador de lodos de todo o mundo."

ICATW aliou-se a outros grupos que se opõem ao queimar de lodos ou lamas, e pretende que as indústrias deixem de lançar resíduos químicos na rede de esgotos. Isentos de químicos, tais lodos podem ser utilizados como adubos.

Membros do ICATW levaram a feito, com grande sucesso, um Jantar-Dançante para Angariação de Fundos no dia 19 de Maio. Mais de 2 mil dólares foram recebidos para ajudar as despesas judiciais tidas com a questão do incinerador. Mais de 150 pessoas assistiram a esse jantar.

Reflexções Na Fronteira México - E.U.

por Frank Morales, '91

Durante uma estadia de 2 semanas na área da fronteira, agitavam-se perguntas na minha cabeça, enquanto en ouvia alguns discursos e entrevistas. Perguntas que certamente estão no pensamento de quem não consegue fazer a viagem.

P. Como me sinto sobre a fronteira?

R. Eu tenho sentimentos misturados na fronteira que separa o Mexico dos Estados Unidos. Primeiro, eu penso que a necessidade de partilha entre os dois países só beneficia a economia dos Estados Unidos. Um exemplo disso é a produção de 'maquilas.'

Maquilas é uma produção Mexicana de plantas com uma alta percentagem de donos estrangeiros. Eles usam mão de obra Mexicana para processar produtos dos Estados Unidos os quais são despachados para os Estados Unidos como produtos empacados. Os salários dos trabalhadores não são maiores do que 50 centavos á hora. Isto beneficia a eocnomia dos Estados Unidos porque as companhias dos Estados Unidos usam a vantagem do trabalho (fornecido por trabalhadores Mexicanos) para ganhar lucros. Pessoalmente, eu sinto que a fronteira do México e as suas riquezas teem sido exploradas por oportunistas dos Estados Unidos. O Mexico, para mim, nunca vai ter uma economia estável porque os seus parceiros negociantes dos Estados Unidos nunca vão distribuir os bens igualmente.



Commerce, California

Esta incinereira falhou no que nela mas nos tubos da boilar, com algumas returas o que fez terem de a fechar, e algumas faltas de dinheiro.

Alexandria, Virginia

Os locais residentes e pagadores das taxas tem de pagar $1.8 millões para um melhor equipamente do control da pulição.

Atlantic County, N.J.

A incenereira planiada pelo conuti 1 ao pe do Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Refugio. A incenereira tera de ser fechada porque e progidicial para os animais. E pena que tamben não tenhan de ser fechada por causa das pessoas.



Feliz Graduação!

Quarenta e cinco alunos graduaram este ano durante a 20   cerimónia do Centro de Crianças do Ironbound na Elm St. Cada classe representou partes musicais durante o programa, e depois os finalistas, pais, amigos, e familias juntaram-se aos trabalhadores do centro de Crianças num jantar delicioso.

Pessoas Da 3ª Idade Têm Mais Programas

O Ironbound Community Corporation celebra o seu 20 aniversário em 1989. Embora a Corporação Começasse (e ainda continua) com programas para crianças em idade pré escolar há também uma variedade de programas para a 3ª idade os qsuais tem sido iniciados ao longo dos anos.

"Nós somos como uma flor a desabrochar, cada dia tem mais pétalas," diz Pat Danielak, Directora do Programa para Idosos do Ironbound Community Corporation. "É um tributo as pessoas trabalhadoras da nossa comunidade o facto de termos estes novos programas."

Os programas começaran muito mais pequenos e em menos nº do que agora. Em 1977 começámos com um programa que dava boleia aos velhinhos p ara eles irem de casa ao supermercado as compras.

Havia um projecto para trabalhar com as pessoas da 3ª idade de Hyatt Court para organizar um Club. O grupo formouse e finalmente conseguiu um lugar para as reuniões. Para alem de actividades recreativas, eles queriam mais segurança nos prédios. O nosso escritório do 95 Fleming Ave. tem ajudado sempre os idosos a preencher formas, responder a perguntas ou quaisquer problemas com o social security, ou qualquer outra ajuda.

Em 1980, Ironbound Community Corporation pediu fundos para começar um programa ***Meals on Wheels***, o dinheiro veio do Essex County Division on Aging. Este programa serve refeoções quentes a pessoas que estão impossibilitadas de sair de casa ou que não podem cozinhar. Começou por distribuir 19 refeições. O pessoal presentemente, Welven Braker, Vincent Fritz, Julie Zelewski, Richard Lee, Lula Henderson, Philip Sweeper e Marco Calvopina distribuen 103 refeições na area do Ironbound e na baixa de Newark. Assim como 30 refeições aos fins de semana.

Em 1984, outro programa foi iniciado: ***Home Friends*** (Os Amigos Em Casa). Com este programa, os nossos empregados visitam pessoas idosas, doentes ou inválidos ajudam-nos nos serviços de casa, vão às compras e cozinham. "Estamos neste momento a ajudar 51 pessoas," disse Grace Hixon, a directora do programa. Para além das tarefas, as trabalhadoras sociais fazem companhia e trazem algums alegria. Presentemente as trabalhadoras são: Evelyn Soto, Annie Gibson, Doris Norris, Rose Marshall, Nilda Leger, Daisy Williams, e Mary Hardoman.

Em 1986 o Ironbound Community Corporation começaram ainda outro programa: transporte a pessoas de 3ª idade e a inválidos. Tem que se fazer marcações com algum tempo de antecedência - falar com Margaret Pasierbek, a condutora, e há uma tarifa de $2 dollars ida e volta em Newark, e $3 ida e volta fora de Newark. "Vale a pena para muita gente," disse a Sra. Pasierbek. "É mais conveniente do que o autocarro, especialmente para idosos e é muito mais barato do que um taxi." A Corporação tem um carro novo para este programa e prevê providência 800 boleias em 1989.

O programa mais novo é ***Golden Age Club*** (Club da Idade Dourada), o qual se reune no Community Center, 432 Lafayette St. e nos Apartamentos do Aspen Riverpark. Este grupo de idosos organizaram-se para distribuir excessos de comida de várias agências do governo e fazem-no mensalmente. O Club agora tem um panfleto com noticias, promovem actividades sociais e recreativas bem como palestras educativas.

"Eu não espero que isto pare por aqui," disse Pat Danielak. "Daqui a 10 anos, talvez tenhamos mais 10 programas. É maravilhoso ver tantas pessoas envolvidas e beneficiarem de tantas e variadas formas dos nossos programas.

Novos Começos

O Reverendo David Burgess celebrou a sua reforma como Pastor da Igreja de St. Stephan no passado dia 23 de Junho. Uma cerimónia especial, seguida de recepção, foram realizadas na Igreja. O Reverendo Burgess tem sido Pastor da Igreja de St. Stephan, localizada na esquina da Ferry St. com a Wilson Ave., desde 1979.

Como parte do seu trabalho pastoral, o Reverendo Burgess, juntamente com outros pastores e padres e pessoas da área, formou a Associação Ecuménica do Ironbound. Esta organização, formado por todas as diversas igrejas do Ironbound, tem trabalhado para resolver problemas na comunidade. A Associação Ecuménica assumiu forte oposição contra o problema da poluição, parar com o queimador de lixos, e limpar o Ironbound de produtos tóxicos.

O Reverendo Burgess manteve-se também activo como membro do Comité do Antigo Balneário da Wilson Ave. Todos os anos, ele esteve presente durante os tradicionais "banhos" efectuados na piscina da Wilson Ave. e em protesto contra o seu encerramento. Além disso, sempre manifestou a sua intervenção para que o Ironbound tivesse mais facilidades de recreio.

Durante os seus anos no Ironbound, o Reverendo Burgess apoiou sempre a actividade do **Comité do Ironbound Contra Produtos Tóxicos**. A sua voz foi sempre uma das mais efectivas durante audiências públicas, reuniões e demonstrações. Participou em marchas de protesto ao longo da Ferry St. em direcção a Blanchard St. Em nome dos residentes do Ironbound, sempre se manifestou contra as grandes empresas industriais e os burocratas que arruinam o meio ambiente e a nossa saúde.

Antes de se radicar em Newark, o Rev. Burgess teve uma carreira diversa. De 1947 a 1955 foi organizar sindical ao sul do país. Trabalhou como oficial do Serviço do Estrangeiro dos Estados Unidos e como Director-Deputado do programa para Crianças das Nações Unidas (UNICEF). Estas ocupações levaram-no a todas as partes do mundo.

O Reverendo Burgess continuará a trabalhar Director do Ministério Ecuménico Metropolitano em Newark, cargo que desempenha desde 1984. Ainda que vá deixar a igreja de St. Stephan, não deixará Newark, e a sua voz continuará a formular perguntas e a levantar importantes questões.

O Coro da Igreja Zion Unida em Cristo, de Vailsburg, onde o reverendo Burgess foi também pastor desde 1979 até 1986, prestou a sua colaboração ao acto que foi seguido dum canto jantar servido por membros da Congregação. A Judy Vasile, que será a nova pastora de St. Stephan, participou nas festividades.

Entre as várias ofertas que recebeu, contavase uma placa da Associação Ecuménica do Ironbound, em reconhecimento das várias contribuições feitas pelo Rev. Burgess

Acción Del ICATw

"Nosotros estamos pidiendo la información monetaria del incinerador de basura por años y ustedes no los han dado. Ahora les pedimos otra vez. Exactamente cuando cuesta la construcción del incinerador de basura y cuanto le cuesta a cada pagador de impuestos?"

Esta fue la pregunta de mas importancia preguntada - pero no contestada - en la ultima reunión en Julio 5 de los Freeholders del Essex County. Miembros del Committee de Ironbound en Contra de Desperdicios Tóxicos (ICATW) atendieron la reunión para preguntar el costo otra vez.

"Ustedes saben cuando nosotros requirimos esta información," dijo Arnold Cohen. "Fue en el 1986. Y todavia no nos le dan."

Los Freeholders estaban votando en una ley referente a como daran dinero para financiar el incinerador.

El Presidente de los Freeholders, Parlavecchio, quien vive en el Ironbound, dijo que si el ICATW le quiere preguntar por escrito el se asegurara de que reciban respuestas.

Los miembros de ICATW tambien preguntaron por que el County Executive Amato continua diciendo que el costo de desaparecer la basura sera ¢54 por tonelada cuando el costo en Warren County es de $95 por tonelada. "Es muy confundible que el nos de este tipo de información. Yo quisiera saber de donde el saca estos estimados cuando tenemos prueba de un incinerador que ya esta operando actualmente," dijo Sr. Cohen.

"Estas son las cuales yo les llamo la **pregunta del billon dolares**," dijo otro miembro de ICATW. "Puesto que puede costarme a mi y a cualquier otra persona esa cantidad antes de que termines. Sin mencionar que nosotros estaremos pagando para infectarnos nosotros con dioxin, plomo, y otros quimicos que se suban al aire que respiramos."

El **ICATW** habia servido de guia en Junio 24, 1989 por los residentes de Essex County de los locales tóxicos. La guia fue organizado despues de una guia para los 'mayors' de todas la ciudades en Essex County del incinerador, ahora bajo construcción.

"Nosotros queriamos que la gente vieran la realidad de lo que la polucción nos a hecho a nosotros en nuestro vecindario. En vez de limpiar esta, ellos nos quieren dar más pollucción con a construcción del incinerador aqui," dijo Arnold Cohen.

Eco-Alert es un grupo de residentes de Essex County quien se oponen al incinerador. Ellos trajeron 30 personas en la guia.

El grupo fue de Lister Ave., el lugar donde encontraron la contaminación mas grande en el mundo entero de dioxin, a Chemical Waste Management quienes ya operan una planta peligrosa en el Ironbound, hasta las calles residenciales cuales estan contaminadas con dioxin. Ellos tambien fueron a ver el Stadium del Ironbound donde construcción de una picina fue parada por los quimicas encontradas en la propiedad. Ellos pararon en el terreno Otilio, un sitio que fue identificado como desecho illegal en el 1974.

"Son 15 años y el DEP no ha hecho nada para limpiar esto. Esta sera el mismo DEP que sepervisara lo que salga del incinerador. Como podemos confiar nuestra salud a ellos," dijo Arnold Cohen.

Otro Incinerador?

El **ICATW** tambien esta organizando un nuevo grupo - 'Clean Sludge Coalition' - que esta peleando la construcción de otro incinerador en el Ironbound. Este esta propuesto para Doremus Ave. por Passaic Valley Sewage Commission (PVSC). Sera el quemador mas grande por 'sludge' en el mundo.

ICATW se ha unido con los otros grupos para prevenir el quemador. Ellos propona que pararon los tóxicos en el 'sewers'. Entonces el 'sludge' puede usarse para cosas positivas como 'compost.'

Los miembros del **ICATW** hicieron una fiesta/comida succesiva para recaudar fundos en Mayo 19 en la cual mas de $2000 fueron logrados para los costos legales encontra el incinerador. Mas de 150 personas asisiteron al evento.



Esto Vale $200,000?

Esta es la manera que el patio de los Aspen Riverpark Apartamentos se ven desde que el dueño empeso un programa de hermosear que va a costar $200,000 nosotros estamos preocupados que ellos van a demorar este trabajo," dijo Delores Rich, del Associación de los Inquilinos. "LOs aparatos y escombros estan dejados por todo el patio. Esto es muy peligroso. Las personas se pueden caer sobre esto y los niños pueden cojer y tirar las piedras o se pueden hacer daño. Esto debe ser limpiado inmediatamente."

Reflecciones Acerca De La Frontera Entre Los E.U. Y Mejico

por Frank Morales, clase '91

Durante las dos semanas que estuve en el area de la frontera escuchando conferencias y observando entrevistas muchas preguntas llegaron a mi mente. Preguntas que ciertamente estarian las mentes de aquellos que no hubieran experimentado este viaje.

P: Como me siento acerca de la frontera?

R: Me siento muy confundido acerca de la situación de la frontera entre Estados Unidos y Mejico. Yo creo que la forma de operación entre estos dos paises, solamente beneficia la economia de los Estados Unidos. Como ejemplo tenemos el crecimiento de maquinas. La maquinaria mejicana tiene un alto porcentage de producción, la cual es de propiedad extranjera. Ellos usan el trabajo de los mejicanos para procesar las mercancias de los Estados Unidos, las cuales son enviadas a los Estados Unidos como productos empacados. El salario de los trabajadores no pasa de $.50 por hora. Esto beneficia la economia de los Estados Unidos, por que las compañias de los Estados Unidos toman ventaja y abusan del trabajo de labor (que obtienen de los trabajadores mejicanos) y asi obtienen su ganancia.

Mi opinión personal es que la frontera de Mejico y su riqueza es explotada por los oportunistas de los Estados Unidos. Para mi concepto Mejico nunca podra estabilizar su economia porque el cambio de mercancias nunca sera distribuido con igualdad y legalidad.



Feliz Graduación!

45 estudiantes graduaron este año en una ceremonia del 20 Aniversario de Ironbound Children's Center localizado en Elm St. Cada clase presento numeros musicales durante el programa y despues los graduados, padres, amistades y familias se unieron con la administración para una comida deliciosa.

Programas Para Envejecientes Crece A Través De Los Años

La Corporación de la Comunidad de Ironbound celebra su aniversario No. 20 en el 1989. Mientras la Corporación comenzó (y continúa) con programas para niños de edad pre escolar, tambien hay además una variedad de programas para envejecientes los cuales han comenzaado a traves de los años.

"Nosotros somos como una flor que sigue añadiendo nuevos petalos," dice Pat Danielak, Directora del Programa de Envejecientes de la Corporación en la Comunidad de Ironbound. "Esto es un tributo al trabajo fuerte de muchos residentes de Ironbound por los cuales tenemos estos programas ahora."

Los programas comenzaron pequeños. En 1977, hubo un programa para proveer transportación a los envejecientes para que hicieran sus compras. Solo duró 6 meses.

Había un proyecto trabajando con las personas mayores en Hyatt Court para organizar un Club para Envejecientes. El grupo ganó y finalmente obtuvo un salón para reunirse. Además de actividades recreacionales, ellos se movieron para mejor la seguridad en sus edificios. Tambien la oficina en el 95 de la calle Fleming siempre ha ayudado a los envejecientes a llenarle formularios, contestando preguntas sobre el seguro social, sobre otras agencias o ayudando de otras maneras.

En 1980, la Corporación en la Comunidad de Ironbound solicitó fondos para comenzar el programa de ***Comida Sobre Ruedas***, y fue consolidado por la División para la Vejez del Condado de Essex. Este programa sirve comidas calientes a personas que tienen dificultad para cocinar o salir de sus casas por motivo de enfermedad o incapacidad. Cuando ésto comenzó, el chofer y empleados voluntarios entregaron 19 comidas. Ahora, los choferes Vincent Fritz, y Welven Braker, y los empleados, Richard Lee, Julie Zelewski, y Lula Henderson, entregan ***103 comidas al dia*** en las areas de Ironbound. También el chofer Marco Calvopina y empleado Philip Sweeper entregan 30 comidas los fines de semana.

En 1984, otro programa fué lanzado: ***Amigos de Casa***. Con éste programa, trabajadores podrian visitar las personas mayores, enfermas o incapacitadas, para ayudarle con algunas tareas en la casa, algunas compras y cocina. "Nuestros trabajadores estan ayudando 51 personas en éste programa," dijo Grace Hixon, el Director del Programa. Ademas de estas actividades, los trabajadores les llevan compañerismo y alegria. Actualmente los Amigos de Casa son: Evelyn Soto, Annie Gibson, Doris Norris, Rose Marshall, Nilda Leger, Daisy Williams, y Mary Hardoman.

En 1986, la Corporación comenzó otro programa: ***Viaje Para Envejecientes***. Este programa provee viajes para personas mayores o incapacitadas. Citas tienen que hacerse con Margaret Pasierbek con tiempo anticipado, con el chofer, y tiene una tarifa por servicio ($2 ida y vuelta en Newark, $3 ida y vuelta fuera de Newark). "Esto vale la pena para mucha gente," dijo Ms. Pasierbek. "Esto es mas conveniente que un autobus, especialmente para las personas mayores, y es mas barato que un taxi." La Corporación tiene un coche nuevo para éste programa, y está anticipando proveer 800 viajes en 1989.

El programa mas nuevo es ***El Club de la Edad de Oro***, que se reúne en el Centro Comunitario, 432 Lafayette St., y en los Apartamentos de Aspen Riverpark. Estos grupos de envejecientes se organizaron para distribuir la comida que el gobierno suple mensualmente. Los clubes ahora tienen una carta noticiera, corren actividades sociales y recreacionales, talleres educacionales y reuniones.

"Yo no espero para aqui," dice Pat Danielak. "En 10 años mas, pueden haber 10 programas mas. Es fantástico ver tanta gente envuelta y beneficiandose de estos programas en muchas maneras."

Nuevo Comienzo

El Rev. David Burgess celebró su retiro como pastor de la iglesia St. Stephan en Junio 23, 1989. Un especial servicio y recepción fue llevado acabo en la iglesia. El Rev. Burgess ha sido pastor en la iglesia St. Stephen, localizada en la esquina de la calle Ferry y Avenida Wilson, desde 1979.

Como parte de su trabajo pastoral el Rev. Burgess junto con otros curas, ministros y personas de la vecindad formaron la Asociación Ecumenical del Ironbound. Esta organización formada, de todas las varias iglesias en el Ironbound, trabajaron para resolver asuntos importantes en la comunidad. La Asociación Ecumenical tomó parte para parar la polución y el incinerador de basura para la limpieza de desperdicios tóxicos en el Ironbound.

El Rev. Burgess estuvó también activo en el Comité de Wilson Ave. Bathhouse. Cada año entendía al 'Wet Down' que se celebraba en da picina de Wilson Ave. para protestar su cierre, y ha estado activo en el llamado para más facilidades recreativas en el Ironbound.

Durante sus años en el Ironbound el Rev. Burgess fuertemente dio su soporte al trabajo del **Comité Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos**. Su voz fue siempre una de las mas efectivas en vistas publicas, reuniones y demostraciones. El marcho en Ferry St. y Blanchard St. Habló por los residentes del Ironbound contra las grandes industrias y la burocracia que amenzaban nuestra salud y ambiente.

Antes de venir a Newark, el Rev. Burgess tenía una carrera variada. Fue un organizador de union en el sur desde el 1947 hasta el 1957. Trabajó como oficial del Servicio Exterior de los Estados Unidos, y como Director Deputado del Programa Para Niños de las Naciones Unidas (UNICEF). Su trabajo lo llevó a todos partes del mundo.

El Rev. Burgess continuará trabajando como Director del Ministirio Ecumenical Metropolitano en Newark, una posición que ha mantenido desde el 1984. Aunque su va de St. Stephan realmente no esta dejando a Newark, y su voz continuara haciendo preguntas y levantando asuntos importantes.

El Coro de la Iglesia Zion Unida en Cristo en Vailsburg donde Rev. Burgess tambien fue pastor desde el 1979 hasta el 1986, se union en el especial servicio de despedida. El servicio fué seguido de una cena maravillosa abseguiada por los miembros de la iglesia. Judy Vasile quien será el proximo pastor de St. Stephan compartió en las festividades.

Entre los muchos regalos, hubo la presentación de una 'placa' por la Asociación Ecumenical de Ironbound, dando reconosimiento al Rev. Burgess por su contribución a sus efuerzos de hacer a Ironbound un lugar mejor para vivir.



Aventura Educativa

La escuela St. Benedict's Prep hace poco organizo una aventura educativa muy especial para algunos sus estudiantes. Los estudiantes con un consejero de la facultad, salieron de Newark en Mayo 14 y llegaron a Tucson, Arizona. Despues viajaron por 2 semanas a diferentes locales en el borde Mejicano-Americano.

St. Benedict's Prep auspicia un projecto durante el mes de Mayo, donde los maestros y estudiantes aprenden por experiencias de la vida real fuera del salon de clases. El viaje fue financiado por contribuciones de padres, amigos y alumnos de St. Benedict.

El viaje fue organizado con ***Borderlinks***, un programa auspiciado por el Tucson Ecumenical Council Task Force For Central America.

Este es un programa que trae grupos de gentes de toda la nación para aprender las situaciones complejas que existen en esta parte unica de esta nación, situaciones que tratan con los problemas del borde Mejicano-Americano. Mas importante, trata con la batalla de los refujiados de Centro America que estan peleando por quedar-se aqui y como sus vidas han sido cambiadas. Muchos de los refujiados uyen de persecusión o de guerra en sus tierras. El viaje les dio a los estudiantes una vista de primera mano de este creciente problema. Los estudiantes tuvieron un nuevo entendido de lo que esta pasando alla y que se puede hacer.

Los estudiantes viajaron a "Ciudades de Borde" como El Paso, Texas, y Ciudad Juarez, Mejico. Muchas personas son arrestados por entrar a esta nación ilegalmente o por ayudar a otros a entrar ilegalmente. El borde Mejicano-Americano es uno de los sitios que mucha gente busca para refujio de otros goviernos o situaciones politica/economica. Muchas de esta gente les son no dados permisos para entrar a esta nación, y hay es donde esta la inquietud.

Por cuanto todos los estudiantes en el viaje vienen de familias emigrantes, ellos ya tenian una ventaja para entender esta situación critica. Andre da Silva emigró de Brazil en 1978; Frank Morales familia viene de Colombia y Puerto Rico; Mario Torres emigró de Portugal en 1985 y Malcolm Toussaint emigró de Dominica en 1981.

St. Benedict's Prep siempre ha sido una escuela emigrante desde su comienzo. Desde 1868, la escuela ha educado sussecivas generaciones de muchos grupos ethnicos que han venida a Newark - Alemanes, Irlandeses, Italianos, Slavs - y mas reciente Africanos, Africanos-Americanos, del Asia, del Caribe, Portugeses, y gente de habla Española de algunas naciones.

Durante el viaje los estudiantes tuvienos mitines con refujiados de Centro-America, trabajadores de santuario, y el patrol de el borde de Estados Unidos. En Tucson, se quedaron en una casa por cuenta de ***Borderlinks***. Ellos visitaron las comunidades de El Paso, Texas, y Ciudad Juarez, Mejico. Visitaron una iglesia Catolica en la comunidad de Agua Prieta. Tambien se vieron con el Secretario del 'World Council of Churches.'

Los maestros prepararon los estudiantes para el viaje 2 semanas antes de salir. Esto incluyó visitas al 'Immigration and Naturalization Service'(INS) localizado en 'downtown' Newark, visitas a refujiados Salvadoreños en Long Island, New York, y participación en 'A Consultation With Undocumented Central Americans' en Wilmington, Deleware, desde Mayo 5 - 7.

Tambien vamos a publicar 2 articulos escritos por los estudiantes. En ellos, ellos comparten sus observasiones y que aprendieron.



Los estudiantes de Escuale St. Benedict Prep y su professor atendieron un programa acerca de immigración, qual incluye un viaje a la frontera de Mejico y los Estados Unidos. En el foto (de izquierda a derecha): Mario Torres, Andre Da Silva, professor Jack Doughterty, Malcolm Toussaint, y Frank Morales.

Que Está Pasando En Mexico?

por Malcom Toussaint, '91

El domingo 14 de Mayo de 1989, un grupo de 5 estudiantes de Saint Benedict's School fueron a estudiar la frontera entre Estados Unidos y Mexico. El grupo estaba formado por estudiantes del primer año de escuela superior, entre ellos, Andre da Silva, Frank Morales, Mario Torres, y Malcolm Toussaint, y un maestro cuyo nombre es Jack Dougherty. Lo que nosotros vimos cambiará nuestras vidas para siempre. El grupo pudo palpar la forma en que los Estados Unidos y las corporaciones de aquí explotar a los Mexicanos, debido a la crisis económica que actulamente Mexico esta pasando.

Una organización llamada **Borderlinks** hizo posible los arreglos para que nosotros apredieramos sobre inmigración y sus efectos fronterizos. Para mucho de nosotros fué el primer viaje hacia el suroeste de los Estados Unidos. Llegamos tarde al aeropuerto de Tucson el domingo en la noche y fuimos recibidos por cactus y mucho polvo y doce compañeros de viaje por las próximos dos semanas.

En los siguientes 3 dias el grupo se quedó en Tucson para apreciar la frontera del lado Americano. Primero visitamos el centro de detenciones de Florence. Este es un lugar donde los inmigrantes ilegales son traidos para luego ser deportodos a su país de origen. La mayoria de oficiales de inmigración paren a cada persona que parezce de origen hispano y demandan ver su tarjeta verde de residentcia. Bayo los leyes Americanos esta actitud de los agentes fronterizos constituye discriminación porque no solo son hispanos los que entran ilegalmente a este pais. A muchas ilegales les es negado el derecho de ser representados legalmente ante un Juez. Muchos veces los oficiales de migración amenazan a los detenidos fisicamente para que estos firmen una forma diciendo que ellos desean regresar a su país. Esto anula el juicio de deportación en el cual los ilegales podrian apelar ante un juez para que se les deje estar en este país.

PRISSA es un organización con base en Tucson y que basicamente trata de atraer grandes corporaciones para que estos construyan subsidiarias en Mexico y de esa forma explotar la barata maro de obra en ese país. La mayoria de trabajdores son pagados el equivalente de 50 centavos la hora. Con este dinero los trabajdores tienen que mantenen sus familias y afrontar el alto costo de la vida en Mexico.

El dia jeuves 18, nosotros fuimos a una comunidad afuera de El Paso en Texas. La comunidad se llama Socorro y está a 2 millos de los Estados Unidos y Mexico.

En nuestro tiempo de estadia en la Iglesia Presbiteriana, nosotros comenzamos a construir una iglesia y pusimos las 3 primeras paredes. Estondo cerca de la frontera mexicana nos dió la oportunidad de estudiar los problemos de alli desde el punto de vista Mexicano. Lo primero que hicimos fue visitar una 'maquila' (una subsidiaria de una gran corporación que explota la barata mano de obra en Mexico). Vimos a la gente trabajan en las lineos de ensanble haciendo productos como defectores de humo, lamparas mano. Todo parecia normal pero nos dimos cuenta que ninguno de los trabajadores estaba fisicamente protegido de los ojos, oidos, manos etc. en contra de los peligros que la fabrica presentaba. Luego preguntamos a los trabajadores sobre el salario minimo y la cantidad que nos diferon era inferior a la que los representantes de PRISSA nos dijeron.

Antes de partir estubimos en Mexico por unos dias, y luego regresamos a Tucson donde hablamos de la situación que nosotros palpamos en MExico y en los Estados Unidos acerca de como los trabajadores son explotados en Mexico. El gobierno Mexicano sabe que estas maquilas pagan menos del salario minimo a los trabajadores, pero no decir nada debido a que estos maquilos pagan impuestos y Mexico necesita mucho dinero para pagar su deuda interra.

El mayor problema persiste y es el de que los trabajadores Mexicanos no estan haciendo suficiente dinero para mantenerse a si mismos y a sus familias. Los compañias manufactureros Americanas encontraron la formula de hacer productos baratos usando mano de obra barato. Que significa esto para los Americanos en el futuro? Significará menos trabajos porque los compañias van a preferir fabricar en Mexico. Aun cuando los Americanos van a comprar productos más baratos, estos tambien serán afectados por lo falta de fuertes de trabajo. Pero cuales son los implicaciones para los Mexicanos? Significará una continuación de la pobreza en Mexico. Nosotros no pedimos un cambio súbido en Mexico pero sí, deseamos que el pais mas desarrollado seas mas sensitivo de sus necesidades y que trate a los denós paises con un poco mas de justicia.

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